GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:101
ANSWERED ON:02.02.2017
Drinking Water Crisis
Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether drought affected districts / areas of several States including Jharkhand are facing drinking water scarcity;
(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise;
(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for finding solution to drinking water scarcity in these districts/areas along with the funds allocated on priority basis to these affected areas during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise; and
(d) the details of measures taken by the Union Government to resolve drinking water scarcity in the country including Jharkhand?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)
(a) & (b) The Ministry has not received any intimation recently from any State including Jharkhand that it is facing drinking water scarcity due to drought .
(c) & (d) This Ministry time to time issues advisory to the affected States / UTs regarding the mitigation measures to be taken up by the States in the wake of drought / drought like situation. In a latest advisory to State dated 04.11.2016, the states (including Jharkhand) have been asked to take the following measures for tackling the crisis of drinking water in the affected rural areas:
a. Hiring of diesel generator sets, pumps.
b. Hiring of water tankers for emergency water supply to affected sites subject to recoupment from future releases under calamity funds.
c. Procurement of sodium hypochlorite, halogen tablets, bleaching powder for proper disinfection.
d. Hiring of sufficient vehicles fitted with water treatment plants to provide onsite safe drinking water.
e. Keeping adequate stock of spare parts that may be required for urgent repair and restoration works both for piped water supply schemes and hand pumps (tubewells).
f. Procurement of polyvinyl chloride water tanks for supply of drinking water in relief camps subject to recoupment from future releases under National Disaster Response Fund / State Disaster Response Fund.

However, under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), 25 % of the fund is earmarked to States as flexi funds. States can use this fund to take measures to mitigate drinking water scarcity in drought situation. Further, States can also utilize 15% of Operation and Maintenance funds available under NRDWP to meet the emergent requirement for drinking water mitigation activities in the event of drought. Under NRDWP, 2 % of funds are kept aside to be released to States on the approval of High Level Committee (HLC) in the event of any calamity including drought. State / UT wise funds released during last three years and current year to meet the drought / drought like situation from the calamity component of NRDWP is as below:
(Amount Rs. in crore)
Sr. No. State 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17
1 Haryana - 5.05 - -
2 Karnataka - 9.00 - -
3 Tamil Nadu 31.00 - - -
4 Uttar Pradesh - 44.00 - -